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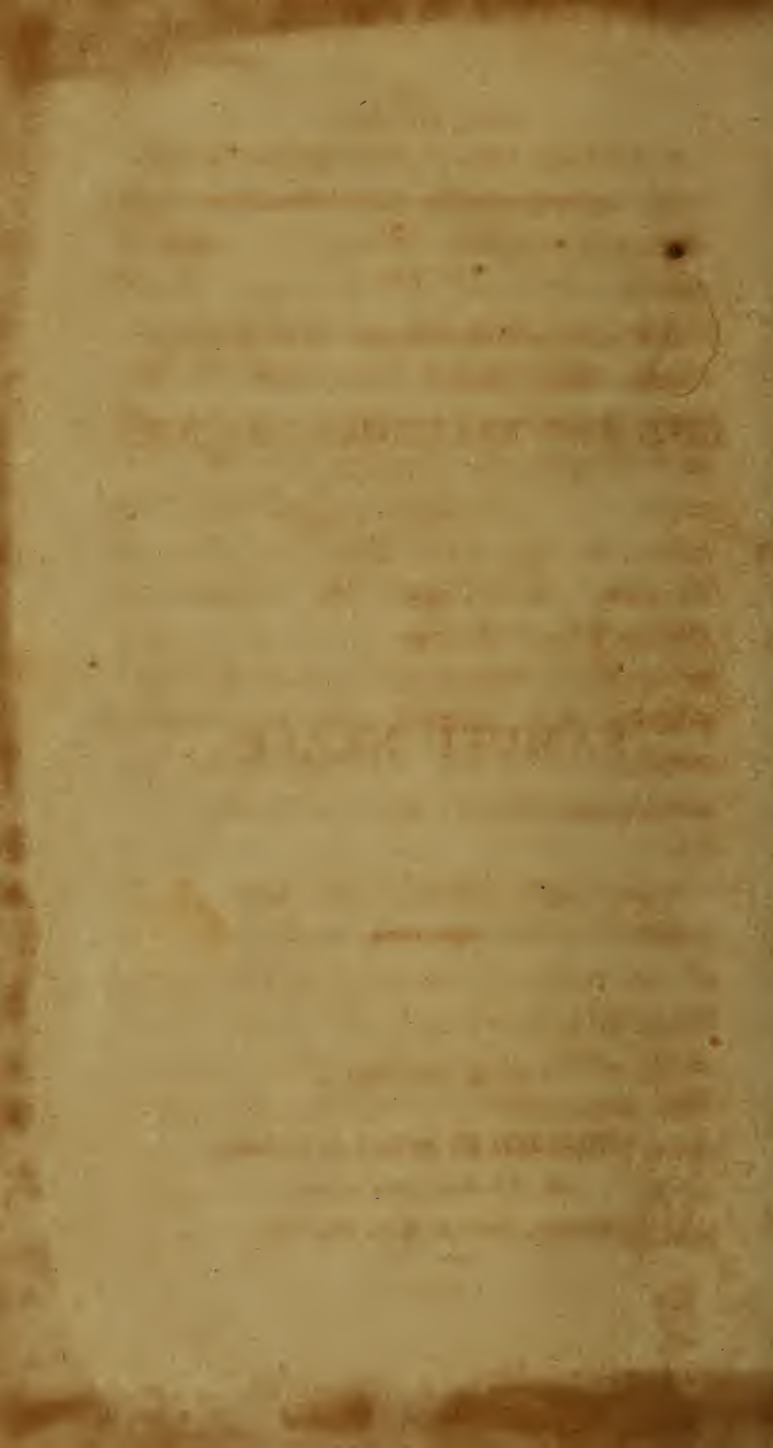
Jacob Parke  
to  
Anne Biddle

3mo: 1817.









SOME ACCOUNT

OF THE

LIFE AND RELIGIOUS LABOURS

OF

SAMUEL NEALE.

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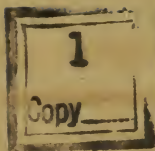
PUBLISHED BY JAMES P. PARKE,

NO. 119, MARKET STREET.

KIMBER, CONRAD, & CO. PRINTERS.

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IT is hoped that the extracts contained in this little volume, taken from journals and other manuscripts of our late Friend, may, if seriously perused, be found instructive. Although written in great simplicity, yet it is evident they proceeded from a mind under the influence of Divine Love, so operating as to preserve in humble dependence upon its holy efficacy, and producing the language of, “ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men.”

They are published with the view of preserving and rendering useful such parts of his writings, as were thought most likely to impress the reader with a sense of the goodness of the Most High towards the workmanship of his hands; and to draw into a consideration of the operation of his Grace, “ that bringeth salvation, and hath appeared unto all men,” which

as co-operated with, is found to be a convincing, converting, efficacious principle ; of which the example before us is a striking instance. This Grace is the appointed means whereby all may be brought out of darkness, into marvellous light ; and unto the saving knowledge of “ the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom he hath sent.”

Seeing the advantage of an early and entire surrender to heavenly visitation, (whether it be more powerful as in this instance, or as a “ seed,” “ the least of all seeds,” which if suffered to grow, would gradually produce a change equally happy) let a wise choice be made ; and the danger of protracting the essentially necessary work of the soul’s salvation averted ; that whether in youth, mature age, or advanced life, the affecting language may not impress the mind, “ the harvest is past, the summer is ended, and I am not saved.”



“ The memory of the just is blessed,”  
and the relation of their experiences may  
encourage the christian traveller steadily to  
persevere in faith and patience to the end ;  
that so his termination here may be peace-  
ful, and his change glorious.



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## SOME ACCOUNT, &c.

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### CHAPTER I.

His education.—Powerful visitation of divine love—and conversion.—His appearance in the ministry.

“ I WAS born in the city of Dublin, the ninth day of the ninth month, 1729. My parents were Thomas and Martha Neal, who removed soon after into the compass of Edenderry monthly meeting. About the sixth year of my age, my mother died; and soon after, my father removed to America, and left me, with a brother and two sisters, under the care and guardianship of my uncle and grandmother; who were very tender of us, gave us such schooling as that neighbourhood afforded, and took care of our morals and



conduct. In a few years my grandmother died, and left us under the care of our uncle; who removed to Christians-town, in the county of Kildare; an estate my grandfather purchased, and left to me, if I should survive my father, which accordingly came to pass, he dying when I was about seventeen years of age. In my early years, though deserted, or deprived of my parents, the Lord my God was near, and took me up, and at times moved upon my spirit and melted my heart, before I well knew what it was that affected me: when very young and capable of reading the scriptures, and other writings tending to instruct me in that which was good and profitable, I felt my spirit tendered, and enjoyed a sweetness of mind that made me very sedate and grave, and often the tears would run down my cheeks: in these seasons I felt myself very comfortable; and had a belief that I was seen by the all-wise Creator, who knew all things: but such impressions soon wore off, and the levity of my natural disposition got into dominion, when amongst my play-fel-



lows. Thus I went on for some time, when I was attacked by the small-pox ; it reduced me very low, and few thought I should recover : in this disorder, I thought I was not fit to die, and therefore entered into covenant that if the Lord would bring me through, I would be more careful of my words and actions than ever I had been before. I still remember some of the prospects I had when lying on that sick bed ; but it pleased infinite Goodness to raise me up. I was then about my twelfth year ; and after this, though I often remembered my covenant, yet my natural propensity to youthful follies and amusements prevailed much, and stifled the good resolutions I had formed, so that, not keeping to the sense that was awakened in my mind, I too much forgot the visitations I had been favoured with from the gracious hand of merciful help ; and not being enough restrained, I took liberties in hunting, coursing, and shooting, whereby I was introduced into unprofitable company, which often lays a foundation for repentance ; and as I grew in

years my passion for these amusements increased, so that I was hurried on, as with a torrent, into irregularities that lead to the chambers of death.

Thus I continued till my father's death, which as already mentioned, was about my seventeenth year ; about which time I had a dawn of sense given, that my life was very unprofitably spent. I knew but little of business, and was desirous of being placed in some line of life, by which I might be enabled, in addition to my income, to live respectably amongst men, and follow some business, so as to be kept out of idleness : in consequence whereof, when about eighteen years of age, I was placed with a merchant in Dublin, a very sensible humane man, to serve him till I should be twenty-one. In this situation I was as much, or more exposed than before : for having money of my own, I contracted acquaintance with many young people in that city, very injurious to my growth in that which was good ; and being remarkably active and strong, and ex-

celling most in a variety of bodily exercises, it made me vain, and emulation prompted me to endanger my health, by abusing the strength with which Providence had endued me for better purposes. In this time of servitude I got intimate with several young men in the college, I believe some of the most moral that were there, and I took liberties inconsistent with the principles in which I was educated. We sometimes frequented the play-house, and after these amusements, and I was on my return home, Oh! the anxiety and remorse that covered my mind, and overwhelmed my spirit. I was then willing to covenant to be more careful in future, and avoid what now seemed so distressing; but when those seasons of diversion approached, I felt my inclination arise with redoubled strength, and my passion for gratifying it, like a mountain insurmountable; so I went, like a man bereft of understanding: when all was over, I was ready to accuse myself as one of the weakest of mortals, and to deplore my unsteadiness and want of resolution.

Thus I continued for a considerable part of the three years I spent in Dublin, sinning, and deploring my weakness, and commission of those things that afterwards stung like a serpent and bit like an adder. At particular times when sitting in meetings, I was sensible of the virtue of truth, and was very much brought down and humbled in my mind : my associates would cry out, “ This is a religious fit, come let us take a coach and go to the “ Park, Black-rock, or some such place, “ and drive it away :” and thus the good Spirit was counteracted by those who were not subject to its government, but agents to him who rules in the children of disobedience, and keeps in bondage and darkness.

I remember in an afternoon meeting, a valuable friend was concerned to speak in a prophetic line, that the Lord would visit the youth, and pour forth of his Spirit upon them, and raise up Samuels for himself : I thought she looked steadily towards me, and her words made a deep



impression on me : but endeavours were used that same evening to eradicate these impressions, which, through weakness and frailty, were but too successful ; so that I feared I should never be able to stand my ground, and was almost persuaded to give over striving. But my gracious and good Lord still followed me with his loving kindness, and at times created a hope that I might overcome the enemies of my own house : and in time, blessed be his holy Name, I felt strength to resist their wiles and insinuations, but alas ! I had many combats : and I well remember a remarkable dream which had a very great effect upon me. I thought the enemy of all good came and attacked me violently, that we wrestled a considerable time, and I was in great conflict ; he brought me to my knees, but still could not throw me down, and after much struggling he vanished. I awoke, and my shirt was as if dipped in water from the agony of this conflict ; though I was young, it made a great impression on me, and since that time I have seen my dream fulfilled.

But for the interposition of the Lord's mercies I should have been long since overthrown, and become a cast-away; great are his mercies, he still continues to be long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth to poor rebellious man: striving by his good Spirit to draw him from sin and iniquity, and calling him as out of Egyptian darkness and bondage, to come into the glorious liberty of being his son; as is expressed in sacred writ, "Out of Egypt have I called my son:" and though this alludes to our blessed Lord's coming out of Egypt, when his life was sought by Herod, it also applies to mankind in general in sin, and in their natural state, which may be justly styled Egyptian darkness and bondage; to whom the call is, by the Spirit of our Lord Jesus, to come out of this sinful state, witness the new birth, and be baptized by his pure spiritual baptism, the Holy Ghost and fire, which purges the floor of the heart, brings into newness of life, and makes it a temple where acceptable prayer is offered up, by the power and excellent working of the pure truth, that prepares every accep-



table sacrifice, in our devotion and religious exercises in our pilgrimage through this world. Thus I went on, between hope and fear, the remainder of my apprenticeship ; my frailties often precipitating me to the verge of ruin.

During this time I had a visitation from the Most High, by a fever and ague, which brought me very low ; my former covenant appeared fresh in my remembrance, and I was now afraid to ask, because before I did not perform. I continued for some time in a low condition, until infinite Goodness restored me once more to health, to try my fidelity ; but, to my shame and confusion, I ran into greater evils than ever : thus ungrateful and hardhearted, I could fully subscribe to that declaration, “ The heart of man is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.” I seemed running the full length of my chain ; my conviction and remorse were at times strong, but company and the levity of my temper quenched these convictions, and I went on to-

wards destruction, in rebellion and disobedience against the divine Monitor, which, in boundless mercy, still followed me. I continued in this state until I was my own master, when, intending to pay a visit to Munster, to form acquaintances and follow some business, I prepared for my journey, equipped like a young man of the world, had a livery servant, and set forward in good spirits on my expedition. As I passed along, I called at Paddoc, where Mary Peisley lived, to enquire after her health and that of the family ; my uncle Samuel Neale accompanied me, we made some little stay there, and I found myself delighted with their instructive conversation : it sunk into my mind beyond what was common ; and when we left the place, I remarked how pleasing such company and conversation were, compared with what was generally to be met with.

I pursued my journey to Limerick, where I staid some days with my relation John Taverner : here I fell into very

dissipated company, old acquaintances that I had in Dublin : from thence I proceeded to Cork, and on the road felt my mind impressed with solid reflections, which I have since thought preparatory to what soon followed ; for I was conscious that my weakness and frailties were great, my time running swiftly away, irresolute with respect to standing against temptation and the allurements of sin, and sin-pleasing pleasures. In this disposition I reached Cork, and there mingled with my old acquaintances, and got new ones. I remember being at a play one evening, up late that night, and lying pretty long next morning, which was First-day, an acquaintance asked me to go to meeting, and at the same time informed me there were strangers to be there, telling me who they were ; I said I would, for at my worst state I generally attended meetings ; so to meeting I went, and it was a memorable one to me : for in it my state was so opened to that highly favoured instrument, in the Lord's hand, Catherine Payton (who with my beloved friend Mary

Peisley was visiting the churches) that all I had done seemed to have been unfolded to her in a wonderful manner. I was as one smitten to the ground, dissolved in tears, and without spirit: this was a visitation from the Most High, beyond all others that I had as yet witnessed; I was so wrought upon by the power and Spirit of the holy Jesus, that like Saul, I was ready to cry out; "Lord what wouldst thou have me to do?" I was almost ashamed to be seen, being so bedewed with tears, and slunk away, after meeting, to get into a private place. I joined company with a religious young man, and forsook my gay companions and associates, who beheld me with astonishment. The change was very rapid, and my doubts and fears respecting myself were very great, so that I could not trust myself in my former company, lest my innumerable frailties should prove too powerful for all my good resolutions. So I abode still and quiet, and kept near these messengers of glad tidings to me. I went with them to Bandon and Kinsale; and the



same powerful dispensation of divine virtue followed me; breaking in upon me, and tendering my spirit in a wonderful manner, in public meetings as well as in private opportunities, which drew the attention and observation of many. When I returned to Cork, I kept as private as I well could, and resolved to quit all my worldly pursuits, and follow the gentle leadings of that heavenly light that shewed me the vanity of worldly glory, and that the pleasures of sin are but as for a moment.

Our beloved friends intended for the province meeting at Limerick, and took Kilcommon meeting in their way: where they went, I went; and a considerable degree of concern grew in my mind, both by day and by night: their company was precious to me, their conduct and conversation strengthening; and the inward manifestations of heavenly goodness were my crown and rejoicing. My eyes were measurably opened to behold my insignificance, rebellion and backsliding: I saw

the perverseness of my nature, and that in me, as man, dwelt no good thing ; I thought I saw that if I missed the present opportunity of coming as out of Babylon, I was lost for ever ; I was come to the length of my chain, my measure was full, and if I did not embrace the present offer, ruin and destruction would be my portion. These sights of my condition stimulated me to exert myself in watchfulness and care, to pursue with ardency the sense that opened in my own mind, and to feel after the spring and virtue that I witnessed there, which far exceeded every gratification that I knew before in this life.

My hunger and thirst after righteousness were great : I delighted much in reading and retirement ; worldly things had no charms for me at this season, when the new creation began to dawn : although, at times, I felt that the mount of Esau was on fire, and the consuming thereof hard to bear, yet it was necessary, in order that I might witness a new heaven



and a new earth, wherein alone righteousness can dwell. I went with them to many meetings, and still heavenly good attended me, which encouraged me to persevere, and resolve to be steadfast. I was very comfortable in this good company, and in that of valuable friends where I came : but the time drew near, when I must be seperated from them ; and though it was a very heavy trial upon me to leave those friends, who as instruments, were exceedingly helpful and beneficial to me in my weak state, yet I concluded to return, and accordingly took leave of my beloved fellow travellers, and turned my face towards home, which was then in Dublin.

This was about the middle of the summer of 1751, and in the twenty-second year of my age. I journeyed homeward in great heaviness ; fear seized on me lest I should not be able to stand my ground amongst my intimates and acquaintances, professors and profane ; being well known in that great and populous city, and having had many proofs of my own unsteadiness.

ness and forgetfulness, when heretofore favoured with the tendering sheddings of the convictions of truth on my mind. At times I had thoughts of leaving the kingdom, and residing in England (near some valuable experienced friends) where I might be safer than amongst my acquaintances in my own country, who so often allured and drew me from the paths of purity, into the pursuit of lying vanities. Thus I reasoned with flesh and blood; but I was instructed to see that he who visited me, was able to preserve me, if I would but be subject and obedient to his wholesome instruction; and that where I had dishonoured him by my inconsistencies, there, by my fidelity to the law he writes in the heart, I might honour and confess him before men. These intimations quieted my mind, and I resolved to meet ridicule, reviling, and even persecution itself, for the sake of him, whom I was resolved to follow, as I felt strength.

In this state of mind I returned to Dub-

lin, and kept pretty quiet, attended meetings, and mingled with a few select friends. In this my weak state I frequently went through bye-ways and lanes, to avoid my old acquaintances, feeling the cross heavy when I met them, and spoke the plain language ; as many young people educated in our society also do ; and this is much to be regretted, for it was the language spoken by our blessed Lord and his disciples, by the patriarchs and prophets, and our principles strictly enjoin us to speak it to all men ; but alas ! many are unfaithful, which makes them unfruitful in works of righteousness.

This brings to my remembrance a passage in my experience, which may be of some use when I shall be no more. When with my old master T. S. as an apprentice, he had occasion to pay rent to the bishop of Clogher, for one of his correspondents ; I was sent with the money, and addressed the Bishop, not as though I was one called a quaker ; he took but little notice of me ; I thought he treated me rather with

contempt : it stung me to think I played the coward, and was ashamed to address him as a quaker ; I therefore entered into an engagement that if ever I went again, I would address him in the plain language. The season came that I was to go, and I was warned in my mind to remember my engagement : I went in some degree of fear ; he was just stepping into his coach to go to the country : when I addressed him as a quaker, he very politely received me, and treated me as if I had been his equal : when I had done my business, I returned with a pleasure far transcending any thing I had felt before, for such an act of obedience. I thought I could leap as an hart, I felt such inward joy, satisfaction, and consolation : so that I would have the beloved youth mind their guide, and not dishonour that of God in them ; for as we are faithful in a little, we shall be made rulers over more.

I staid in Dublin amongst my friends, attending meetings constantly, and sometimes met a select number at Samuel



Judd's, where I was often refreshed and comforted ; the Lord was pleased to be with me, contriting my spirit and humbling me under his mighty hand. The mount of Easu was still on fire, which at times was very affecting and hard to be borne ; and were it not for the Divine hand that sustained, I could not have abode the fierceness of the furnace : but it is a gradual work and must be accomplished ; the kingdom of sin and Satan must be destroyed, before the kingdom of the holy Jesus, becomes established in the hearts of men.

The house of Saul grew weaker and weaker, and the house of David stronger and stronger, until it became established : so, in a religious sense, conversion is a gradual work ; the sinful nature declines by the efficacy of the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, which purges the floor of the heart, and makes it a fit temple for the Spirit of the Son of God to dwell in. This causes a strong combat, a severe conflict, in which the poor creature suffers



deep probation and tribulation ; but it is the way to virtue and glory, and is the heavenly preparer of paths to walk in acceptably to God : who, gradually carrying on his own work in the midst of suffering, visits by his life-giving presence, to animate, cheer, and enable the drooping soul to hold on its way ; and so, by this invisible and glorious work, the day of redemption draws nigh, and the poor pilgrim goes from strength to strength, and from one degree of experience to another, rejoicing in the Lord Jehovah, the God of the spirits of all flesh until the work be completed : then the poor traveller can say ; “ It is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.” It is he that works, both to will and to do, of his good pleasure, by his holy Spirit, as the temple is clean and is kept in that state, which is only to be done, as we take heed to the power and spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Captain of our salvation, watching and praying that we enter not into temptation :

then, and not till then, shall the temple of our heart be clean.

After I had spent some time in Dublin, my dear friend Garratt Van Hassen, having an inclination to go to Mountmelick, to see friends there-away in their families, I felt an inclination to accompany him, of which he seemed glad. When there, he was joined by James Gough, and they invited me to sit with them in the families they visited : I was sensible of divine good in most of the families, and had some openings similar to those spoken of by them in their religious communications, which was a strength to my mind. I remember in one family there was nothing said, no openings in ministry, and in that family my mind was much shut up, I felt no openings of light or comfort, which made me believe I had something of a sense such as these worthy friends had, and this was some encouragement to me in my infant state. I kept on with them in the service until they had concluded ; in general I was favoured in spirit,

being often tendered and contrited before the Lord Almighty, and, I hope, strengthened in living experience. On our return, we called at Christian's-town, and stayed a few nights there, where I met with a remarkable occurrence ; I had been used in former times to walk out with my gun and dog : it was a retired way of amusing myself, in which I thought there was no harm ; and reasoning after this manner, though I was very thoughtful about leading a new life, yet I now went out as formerly : I remember I shot a brace of woodcocks, and on my return home it rained, and I went to shelter myself by a stack of corn, when it struck my mind as an impropriety, thus to waste my time in this way of amusement, so I returned rather heavy hearted ; dear Garratt and I lodged together ; and next morning he asked me if I was awake, I told him I was ; “ I have something to say to thee,” said he, I bid him say on ; “ It has been,” said he, “ as if an angel had spoken to me, to bid thee put away thy gun, and I believe it is proper that

thou shouldst put away that amusement :” to this purport he spoke ; and that same night I dreamed that it was said to me, intelligibly in my sleep, that if I would be a son of righteousness, I must put away my gun, and such amusements : it made a deep impression on my mind, and I concluded to give up every thing of the kind and take up my daily cross, and follow the leadings of the Lamb, who takes away the sins of the world.

We returned to Dublin soon after, and I staid there, attending meetings, and keeping as much as I well could in solitude, until dear Joseph Tomey, feeling a concern to visit a few meetings in the country, I was made willing to accompany him. In this journey, I was under a deep exercise of mind and great strugglings between flesh and spirit, which none fully knew but the good Spirit, that searcheth all things, and comprehendeth all states and conditions. We went to Ballitore, and into the county of Carlow ; Joseph was clothed with great authority in his minis-



try, and was made a nursing father to me in this little journey by day and by night, for we lay much awake, in great tenderness and contrition of spirit, so that I may indeed say, I watered my pillow with my tears. I felt something like a fire in my breast that glowed with uncommon heat : it gradually increased, and was shut up there till we came to Mountrath meeting, where, as I sat, I felt a great concern to say a few words, which deeply affected my whole frame, and made me tremble exceedingly. After much reasoning, I yielded obedience, which gave me great ease ; my peace flowed abundantly, and I seemed quite in another state. My companion had an excellent opportunity to preach the gospel to the people, and the meeting ended in a very solemn frame. This was the sixteenth of the Twelfth Month, 1751. My beloved friend Mary Peisly was present at this awful dedication of the temple of my heart, and I believe had great sympathy with me, beeing deeply experienced in the way and working of truth, and an eminent instrument in the



Lord's hand for promoting truth and righteousness amongst men. After this I kept very still and quiet, was much inward with the Spirit in my own heart, and delighted in reading and meditation. We went from Mountrath to Edenderry, and were there at a marriage: there were several people at it besides Friends: I went in much fear to this meeting, but I was helped to bear my testimony, and my companion had an excellent open season amongst them. We went from Edenderry to Dublin, where I had much reasoning with flesh and blood, such as, what would the people think or say of such an one as I, who had been a gay young man, a libertine and a persecutor of the holy Jesus; in his spiritual appearance, to appear now as a preacher of righteousness.

When the meeting day came, my fears increased, and in this state I went to meeting; it was on a First-day, there was a very large gathering, amongst whom were divers of my associates and old companions. I was concerned to bear my testimony, which

I did in great fear and trembling : the subject was Paul's conversion ; “ Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me ? ” It was spoken in great brokenness, I did not say much, but it had an extraordinary reach over the meeting ; many present wept aloud, and for a considerable space of time. After meeting I endeavoured to get away unperceived, though one man (not of our society) caught me in his arms and embraced me. Thus was I sustained and strengthened in my setting out in the work of the ministry ; and had an evidence that the people were much reached, and powerfully affected that day.

Afterwards I waded through divers exercises, and felt deep baptisms attend me, for my further purification ; and, on account of the people, whose states I must feel, if I ministered aright.”

## CHAPTER II.

Joins William Brown in a visit to some parts of England, Holland, and Germany.—Attends the Yearly Meeting in London, and visits Scotland.—His marriage with Mary Piesly.—An account of her sickness and death.

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“ IN a few days after, dear William Brown arrived from America, a faithful minister and an experienced elder, who wanted a companion ; I was spoken to on the subject, and, after receiving the advice of my friends, and feeling my way open, I agreed to go with him, which I hope proved a blessing to me.

During his stay in Dublin, preparing for his journey, he laboured faithfully in the vineyard : there seemed an open door, the change in me awakened the minds of

several of the youth, who were greatly struck with it, and indeed it was a day of visitation to many.

We left Dublin in the First Month 1752, and visited the sundry meetings of friends through the nation, both in the particular and province meetings, as they occurred in our way ; holding meetings also in divers places, where there were none of our society resident. We had to experience that the God of our forefathers manifests himself to be near those whom he commissions and sends forth as sheep among wolves ; and that it is not the wise of this world by whom he speaks, but those who are anointed with the holy unction, poured out of his heavenly horn. The divine power was over the spirits of many of the people, which confirmed me in the belief, that the Lord will send his servants to invite those that are as in the highways and hedges to the supper of the Lamb. At the last meeting we attended in this journey, we were made partakers of the healing, sweetening virtue of truth, and



were mercifully sustained throughout, by the invisible omnipotent Arm, that never fails those who trust in it.

Returning to Dublin, we attended the national meeting in the fifth month. When, having obtained the concurrence of my friends, we embarked for England, arrived at Liverpool the tenth, and the fifteenth got to London. We had several precious opportunities during our stay there, though my spirit was deeply baptized, under a sense of my own unworthiness, and on account of the liberties taken by many who make a high and holy profession. In this yearly meeting my spirit was much humbled within me, the heart-tendering power and virtue of truth broke in upon me; and I thought if I spent such a season every year of my life it would be truly profitable. The meetings for discipline, as well as those for worship, were very consolatory: my spirit was much broken and contrited before the Most High, and I walked in great fear."



He proceeds to give an account of his journey, in company with William Brown, through some parts of England, Holland and Germany, which, being very circumstantial, it is thought best to omit it, except a few interesting particulars which follow.

“ On the sixth of Sixth Month, we set out for the yearly meeting of Woodbridge, and during the time thereof, we were frequently overshadowed by the goodness and glory of our God, and the testimony went forth in good authority and power.

The third of Seventh Month, went on board a sloop at Yarmouth, and, through the goodness of a gracious God, landed the fifth at Rotterdam. On the eighth, we got to Amsterdam: were at meeting there, and blessed be the name of the Lord our God, we were owned by his living presence. In this city we staid for some time, visiting the families of friends; exhorting them; as truth opened our way,

and gave us tongue and utterance. I was very thankful in feeling what I did amongst them : my spirit was much united to some states there, and though I could not converse with them, yet there was an union and fellowship in spirit, unknown to mere worldly minded men. From hence we proceeded to Osnaburgh, &c. and on the twenty-third of Eighth Month, went on board the packet boat at Helvoetsluys, and through the continued condescension of the invisible Arm of power, arrived safe at Harwich the twenty-fourth.

The fourth of First Month 1753, my companion resting a few days, I was at Spiceland, where were Mercy Bell and her companion Phebe Cartwright : here I was made acquainted with these Friends' concern, to go to the market place, and street adjacent in Exeter, which bowed my spirit : I was baptized with them, and encouraged them to faithfulness. We spent the evening in a solid frame of mind, under the consideration of this weighty exercise : it appeared to me in such a man-

ner, as made me apprehend that it was my duty to accompany them, and my companion assenting thereto, I freely gave up, not without first weighing it well, fearing, by being too forward, I might rather hinder the service; and knowing that the Almighty was as sufficient to work by one (inasmuch as it was his will to work instrumentally) as by a thousand. Thus, secretly desiring to be directed aright, a feeling sense opened to go, which I believe was strengthening to them.

On the fifth in the morning, accompanied by William and Thomas Byrd, we set out, and got to the throng of the market between twelve and one o'clock: after a time of silence, Mercy Bell was concerned in fervent supplication for aid and strength to fulfil what she thought to be her duty. We then walked up to the market place, where she delivered what was on her mind: her companion was likewise concerned to warn the people to repent, for the day of the Lord came as a thief in the night. They proceeded

through the street and often stopped ; the people flocked about us in great numbers, and many were reached ; and although there were divers hardened and stiff-necked, yet, in general, they listened with attention and soberness. Thus these friends continued about three hours, regardless of the contempt and mocking of the profane. The word being in my heart, was put into my mouth, and I exhorted them to turn to the Lord, and he would have mercy, but if they forsook him and lived a life of unrighteousness, they would, with the nations of all those that forget God, be turned into misery : and, for thus bearing my testimony for the truth of my God, I had the reward of sweet peace.

We appointed a meeting for the inhabitants to begin at five o'clock, which was very large ; and, as ability was given, we declared the truth. M. Bell had an open time amongst them, to the satisfaction of most, if not all present, and the meeting concluded with supplication and praise to



Him, who fits and qualifies for every work and service. In this city, there are some professing the blessed truth, who are like the Rulers of old, that believed, but did not confess, because they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

Next morning I joined my former dear companion, and on the twenty-third we came to Bristol, where his indisposition rendered it necessary for him to rest again and I, finding my way open homewards, acquainted him therewith. It was no small exercise to me to leave him, who was made as a father to me in counsel and advice : may it incite to a faithful perseverance, and cause my soul to be active in every point of duty ; as I believe his was.

I staid in Bristol until the first of the Second Month, was at several meetings, and can say, the Lord was pleased to be with me and to strengthen me : for ever magnified be his eternal Name, for all his mercies to my soul.



On taking leave of my dear companion, we had a religious sitting wherein we were mutually comforted, and had to believe, that, as the Lord our God joined us together, so in his wisdom he separated us, and in his love we parted. I proceeded to Gloucester and Worcester ; at the latter place I met my endeared friend and sister Catherine Payton ; here we renewed that acquaintance which was begun in the truth. I staid both meetings on first day, which were remarkably satisfactory to me : the pure life succoured, and I was helped to discharge myself beyond my expectation. In the evening, we had the company of several friends in a religious sitting, which was very refreshing and comforting ; and though the apprehension of being singly at that meeting had been trying, and fearfulness had covered my mind ; yet my good master made it easy and joyful to me, additionally so, by casting his servant's lot there at the same time, who was so great an instrument in his gracious hand towards my conviction and conversion : for which continual mercies

may I be favoured to hear, with humility and attention, the words that he condescends to speak to mysoul, that so I may obey, and witness true peace to flow in my bosom : for, at this time I can say, all that I crave is, ability to worship the infinite All-wise Being aright in spirit and in truth.

I arrived in Dublin the twenty-first of Second Month 1753, and attended the meetings as they fell in course, until after our national meeting ; when, with the concurrence of my friends, I set out for the yearly meeting in London ; where were many friends of great weight : here I was renewedly convinced of the excellency of our principles, and of the blessed union of the faithful, and that no weapon formed against them should prosper ; but that the Lord of Power would be a sun and a shield to all who put their trust in him. This was a memorable meeting, many living testimonies were borne to the pure truth, and our covering was a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty ;

in which state we worshipped the Lord our God.

Soon after my return I took a place in the country, intending to reside there : it was an agreeable solitude, free from noise and hurry, and relieving to me, in that season of baptism and refinement. This place was within the compass of Edenderry monthly meeting, and Rathangan particular meeting, which, about this time, had a fresh visitation extended from the Most High : we often sat under the descendings of Divine Love, in which we felt much tenderness and brokenness of spirit, and therein grew in virtue and greenness, tending to make fruitful in every good word and work, and there was an increase in spiritual riches. After I was settled in my new habitation, I was very careful to attend quarterly, province and national meetings, as they fell in course with other religious services."

The remaining part of this work has been

extracted from a diary, which it appears he kept from the year 1754, to the year before his death, respecting which he expresses himself thus :

“ The remarks penned in passing along are, and have been, instructive to my own state. The impressions made under Divine influence are certainly highly beneficial and lasting, if we keep as we ought, in humility and fear.”

“ Having felt a draught, for some time, to attend the yearly meeting in London, as also to visit Scotland, I took shipping for Parkgate the twenty-sixth of Fifth Month, 1756, and landed the twenty-eighth. After attending the yearly meeting, I staid in and about London till the twenty-third of seventh month: when, being at Gracechurch-street meeting in the forenoon, I experienced the renewings of inward life and peace, as a reward for my labours and exercises in that city, and had cause to be humbled in mind, and to return thanksgiving and praise to the Author of every



blessing, indeed, worthy for ever, and evermore, amen.

I left London, and had many meetings on my way to Edinburgh, which place I reached the twenty-second of Eighth Month, and was at two meetings there, it being First-day; divers of other religious persuasions came in, who though light in their behaviour at first, became very solid. The meeting ended to more contentment than I expected, considering the wide and distant walking of some, from the principle they profess. The twenty-sixth had a meeting at Urie, and though it was my lot to suffer much, yet the Lord my God was pleased to favour me with his divine and heavenly aid, and to bear up my head, and to support my spirit, so as to clear myself of what seemed my place to deliver, which was very close and sharp. Had meetings much to my satisfaction, at Kingswell, Aberdeen, Inverary, Stonehive and Old Meldrum: there was, belonging to the latter meeting, a sensible body, con-

cerned at heart for the growth and increase of truth.

The eleventh of Ninth Month came to Glasgow, and had two meetings. Here my companion, Thomas Crudson, and I parted ; he returned home by way of Carlisle : and, on the thirteenth, I set forward for Port-patrick, where I arrived the fifteenth ; and next day landed at Donaghadee. The nineteenth, was at the quarterly meeting held near Ballindery ; here I met my dear friends S. H. and S. W. with whom I partook, in gospel fellowship, of the fruit of the tree of life, and was refreshed in a holy and sweet communion. We were favoured together, and the meeting ended in thanksgiving and praises to him who lives for ever, prepares them himself, and teaches how and when to offer them up to his holy and glorious name.

The twenty-eight, after having visited several meetings in Ulster province, I returned home, and found my family well ;

for which, and all other blessings and mercies, may living praise and adoration be ascribed to the inexhaustible source of all good. Amen.

Third of the Eleventh Month. Having long had a prospect of an union with my beloved friend and sister in the faith, Mary Peisly; and, being desirous to manifest that my dependency was not on my own judgment in this weighty undertaking, I mentioned it to my relations and near friends for their approbation: they not feeling any objection, strengthened my belief, that the God of my life was pleased therewith, and that it was in his counsel, who had often united our spirits, and baptized us into the Spirit of his dear Son, our Captain and Lawgiver, who helps all those that trust in him, with the increase of his Spirit and Power: and will assuredly give the victory to all who persevere in well-doing and endure to the end; which, that it may be our joint experience and crown of rejoicing, is the ardent breath-

ing and supplication of my spirit at this time.

First of Twelfth Month. I was drawn in spirit to be at Edenderry meeting, which proved a good one, I believe, to several; my heart was much tendered and melted, under a sense of my Lord's goodness: and the gospel went freely forth: the wicked were warned, the weak and feeble encouraged, and the negligent stirred up. The meeting ended under a covering of glorious Goodness; under the influence whereof, praise was sounded forth, in solemn supplication, to the Father of mercies, in the power and ability of his dear Son our Lord, for ever worthy saith my soul. Amen.

Ninth. In meeting at Rathangan, the shortness of time was pointed out to my view, in a lively manner, in the kingly prophet's words: "Lord make me to know my end, and the measure of my days, that I may know how frail I am:" this knowledge conveys fear, and incites



to a state of preparation, to loosen the affections from worldly enjoyments, which are fleeting and fluctuating : for it is certain we brought nothing into the world, neither can we carry any thing out of it : and having food and raiment let us be therewith content. We have need to prepare for our change, watch our steppings, and guard against our natural senses, lest, being outward and carnally bent, they defile and tincture the spirit, which, in the end, will have an habitation according to its purity, or impurity according to its holiness or unholiness.

Twelfth of Second Month, 1757. Went to Mountrath, to see my beloved friend M. P. accompanied by some of my relations, having an expectation of presenting our marriage before the monthly meeting the day following : found her well in health, through divine favour, but inwardly bowed, under a sense of the important change which she was likely to make. It was a time of humiliation and prostration of soul to us both : and my desires were

strong and fervent, that the Lord of our life might please to be with us, and unite us renewedly, in his holy unchangeable covenant of light and peace. The thirteenth we appeared before the meeting, I believe, in awe and reverence of mind; and a solemn enjoyment of divine peace and love attended our spirits; which centered them in calmness and serenity. After attending the quarterly meeting in Carlow, went towards Ballinakill, with my beloved M. P. and some other friends, who were going there on a religious visit to Friends' families; and, finding my way open, I joined them in that service. Twenty-second. Feeling a disposition still to accompany friends in this visit, went with them to finish what remained in the meeting of Mountrath, and the twenty-fourth returned home in much peace.

Twelfth of Third Month. Went towards Mountmelick, accompanied by two friends to meet my dear friend, M. P. who was engaged in a family visit in that quarter.

Thirteenth of Third Month. We presented our marriage the second time. In the evening I accompanied my beloved friend, with others appointed, to a few families : in one of which, she directed her testimony to the visitors, in such a manner, as much affected our spirits : she spoke of the pillars of a house, in an outward building, the fewer they were, the greater weight or burden they had to bear : so, in the Lord's house, those who were faithful and upright, must expect to feel weight, and the fewer they were in number the greater weight must they expect to feel : she mentioned the necessity of standing firm ; and had encouragement for such.

The seventeenth, being the day of our marriage, many friends and others attended it was a solid, comfortable, and instructive meeting. James Gough was concerned to mention these words from the Prophet Isaiah : “ Thy Maker is thy husband : ” on which he enlarged in a beautiful and remarkable manner. In the evening we had a time of retirement, in which some-

thing singular occurred : I was engaged to speak of the Apostle's address to the Thessalonians, where he called them, " The church in God : " it opened to my view, that we were to be that Church by union and communion with Him ; keeping under the sanctification of his power and virtue ; that relations in affinity or consanguinity signified little, to that of an immortal kindred, which is between those who are, " The church in God ; " that trials and afflictions were the lot and portion of the right-minded, designed to bring us to a nearer union with our God, and make us his church, prepared for him to dwell with, and in. I entreated all to prize such seasons as these, and to remember, that, if they were properly improved, it would be laying up for ourselves a good foundation against the time to come. My dear wife had to speak of the sabbath of rest, that when the Almighty had done his six days work in the creation, he appointed a sabbath, and sanctified it ; and that, in the time of the law, the people were forbidden to do any manner of work on the



sabbath day ; and said, there were some present who would have a sabbath in which they should have no work to do. This, I remember, she spoke in a few words, with great clearness, and the evidence went with them. Little did I then expect that we had each to minister to our own states and conditions.

The eighteenth, we were visited by several of our friends, and had religious and instructive communion in the openings and enlargement of divine love. The nineteenth, we spent solidly, in a sweet fellowship, and my dearest was cheerful and well going to bed, but about one o'clock was attacked with her old complaint, the cholic, in an unusually violent manner, and was in great agony ; several things were administered which formerly relieved her, but nothing now was sufficient to repel it : thus she continued most of the night, dozing at intervals, after the first shock of her pain was over, which did not, in its violence and force, last above an hour. She lay pretty quiet and still, in an awful

frame ; and would sometimes raise her voice in a melodious and heavenly manner, through the efficacy and virtue of that glorious grace which had so often animated and enabled her to sound forth praises to the King of Saints : and though she did not always express herself in words, yet there was a language in the sound which richly and fully manifested that she triumphed over her bodily pain, as well as over death, hell, and the grave : for it appeared, that she longed to be dissolved, by her entreating her Lord to give her a release, if consistent with his holy will ; which request he was pleased to answer ; and about half an hour before her departure dismissed her pain : she then said, “ I praise thy name, O my God ! for this favour.” Soon after she breathed shorter and shorter, and quietly departed about three o’clock in the afternoon, the twentieth of Third Month. I was constantly with her during her illness, and have to bear my testimony to her noble and christian conduct. My loss is great, in being deprived of a sweet companion,

a true friend, a steady counsellor, a virtuous example, a valuable instrumental pilot and a sincere sympathizer in afflictions and trials. But my Lord, who knows my motives and views in seeking such a friend, will, I trust, look down in pity and mercy on my destitute condition, and administer heavenly, sustaining help, to anchor my mind in such a storm as this : that I may be able so to live to his honour, as to gain an admittance into that kingdom that is prepared for the Righteous, when these few moments shall be over, when this mortal veil shall be rent, and the immortal spirit summoned to appear before its Lord. Oh ! that my soul be vigilant and watchful in the great work, that I may have to join the spirit of my beloved, and and her kindred saints, in singing Hosannas and Hallelujahs to the Lord God and the Lamb, who lives and reigns for evermore.

Twenty-first, twenty-second, and twenty-third. In a drooping, low, exercised condition, under a sense of my great trial ;

but the God of my life opened a view that my dear wife was happy, and I left in a state of daily toil and trial, to wrestle with flesh and blood before the reward of “well done,” be pronounced. And methought, I beheld, in the vision of that which gives the victory, comfort and beauty in the prospect of running well, and in being vigilant and valiant in the work of God : and I felt a strong and fervent motion of spirit that it might be my lot, so to run, as to obtain, and so to suffer, as to reign with my Lord and Redeemer in the mansions of light and immortality.

Twenty-fourth. The day my dearly beloved wife was interred: it was my desire to have a meeting in the meeting-house, and it pleased the great Lord and Master of her life and labours, to favour with his divine presence ; and to exalt his testimony above all opposing spirits, and enemies of the cross of our Lord Jesus : for which my spirit was bowed, and praises lived in my heart to his great and ever to be honoured name ; and at the grave we had a



renewed evidence of his divine notice and power : dominion and authority were ascribed to Him, who opens his treasury, and dispenses his blessings and favours, ever worthy of thanksgiving and praise by sanctified spirits on earth, and glorified spirits in heaven. \*

Twenty-sixth. Took leave of my friends and relations, in a solemn weighty frame of spirit, in the enlargement of unlimited love, having fervent supplications quickened in my heart, that we might all be kept clean, in the protecting care of our Heavenly Father.

Twenty-eighth. Returned to my own house, low and thoughtful.

\* Richard Shackleton writes thus to a friend, respecting this meeting ; “ My dear friend (to my great surprize and gladness) kneeled down beside the coffin which contained the remains of his most beloved earthly treasure, and prayed to God the Father, in the demonstration of the spirit, and baptizing power of his Son. From thence we proceeded to the grave-yard, where Samuel bore a living testimony to the people.”

Thirty-first. Attended the meeting at Rathangan, in which my spirit was refreshed and strengthened. All night, in bed, my mind was much exercised and tossed in reflecting on the singularity of my trial, and I was earnest in mind to have some confirmation respecting the cause of the quickness of the separation; which was graciously vouchsafed, insomuch that I was made thankful and easy : having an evidence from the Almighty, through the revelation of his Spirit, respecting the removal of his servant, that her days were filled up. It seemed to me as though she appeared before me, and uttered these words intelligibly : “ As for me, I am safe, thou art still in the body, watch well thy ways : ” an unction seemed to accompany the words that rested on my mind for some days. I count it a mercy indeed to be thus noticed, and humbly crave help to live diligently in uprightness. ”

### CHAPTER III.

Visit to Munster, and some parts of Leinster.

—Visit to Wales, and some meetings in England.—His Marriage with Sarah Beale.—

Visit to the meetings of Friends in South Wales, Bristol, and the West of England.—

Accompanies some Friends on a visit to the monthly and provincial meetings in Ireland.



#### TWENTY-THIRD of Sixth Month.

Set out in order to pay a visit to Friends in some parts of this province, and in the province of Munster, which I had, for some time past, believed to be a duty incumbent on me. Twenty-fourth. Was at a meeting in Dublin; went from thence to Wicklow to the province meeting: so proceeded to the county of Wexford: visited all the meetings in that county, and in the province of Munster. The virtue of truth rose into dominion many times; and my soul was deeply bowed under the renewed experience of the mercy of my

Lord, richly extended to me in this journey. After an absence of six weeks and three days, I returned home ; fully satisfied that I had been in the way of my duty : with this resolution to be willing always to trust in my Master, and follow his directions as clearly made manifest. Having had a prospect for some time past, of paying a religious visit to Wales, and some parts of England, and the time now drawing near, quickens a diligence to leave my concerns in such regularity as may be easy to my mind ; but my principal object is the discharge of my duty, that I may do the day's work in the day time, manifesting, that I prefer the cause of Jerusalem before my chiefest joy.

Sixteenth of Third Month, 1758. I left home, and after attending the yearly meetings in London, Wales and Norwich, also several quarterly and particular meetings ; on the twenty-ninth of Fifth Month, was at the quarterly meeting at Colchester for the county of Essex, in which I was concerned, both in the meeting for wor-



ship and discipline, to bear my testimony to the truth, of which we make profession; and in support of some branches of our christian testimony, too much slighted and violated in that country: this day felt peace to abound. Next day, in the meeting of ministers and elders, also in that for worship, I had some service, but did not feel so much peace to flow in my heart as yesterday, not taking sufficient time in delivering my testimony, which has often hurt me, and left my mind sensible of mismanaging the work assigned; but, I trust, the Lord my God will remedy this infirmity, by keeping me in a holy fortitude, granting confidence in the openings of the Word of life, which, indeed, is the only true rectifier.

Seventh of Seventh Month. I was at the quarterly meeting at Kendal. That honourable elder, James Wilson, was there; in his eighty-third year; whose living counsel, in testimony, was very refreshing, and he appeared in the strength of a young man. He told me of a meet-

ing he was at in London, with Thomas Wilson, where was a great concourse of people, and amongst them two persons of high rank in the world, who sat very attentively while a Friend was speaking, and seemed to like what was delivered ; but when Thomas stood up, being old, bald and of a mean appearance, they despised him ; and one said to the other ; “ Come, my Lord, let us go, for what can this old fool say ?” “ No,” said the other ; “ let us stay, for this is Jeremiah the Prophet, let us hear him :” so, as Thomas went on, the life arose, and the power got into dominion, which tendered one of them in a very remarkable manner ; the tears flowed in great plenty from his eyes, which he strove, in vain, to hide. After Thomas had sat down, he stood up, and desired he might be forgiven of Thomas, and of the Almighty, for despising the greatest of his instruments under heaven, or in his creation.

Eleventh of Ninth Month. My mind seems resigned to attend the quarterly

meeting at Penn-place, and so to proceed to Carmarthen and Haverfordwest, and then, if the Lord please, homeward. And thou knowest, O my God ! that my delight is to do thy law, and to obey thy holy direction : support me, my spirit humbly beseeches, to the latest period of my days, to walk in thy paths, that my soul may at last have an entrance into that kingdom, wherein the righteous, redeemed souls have an inheritance.

Third of Tenth Month. I sailed from Haverfordwest, landed safe at Dunleary ; and came to Dublin, where I staid several days, attending meetings. On the twelfth, I was at our meeting at Rathangan, in which ancient Goodness was pleased to appear, to the tendering of my spirit, in commemoration of the mercies received in my late journey. I was bowed, and my heart revered that Power which hitherto shielded, protected and preserved. In the evening returned home to my family, a peaceful serenity covering my spirit ; for which, and every other blessing

received, may living thanksgivings be rendered to the Lord my God, who is everlastingly worthy. Amen !

Twenty-sixth of Ninth Month, 1759.  
Was at meeting at Ballitore, with my esteemed friend C. P. here the mysterious fountain of gospel communication was admirably opened, and indeed the deeps were broken up in my heart, and I was mercifully blessed with a sight of my own state and condition, which I trust will produce additional degrees of humiliation, and beget greater devotedness of soul to the service of the bounteous Author of my being, who alone has an absolute right to body, soul, and spirit ; and it is the prayer of my heart, most Gracious Fountain of blessedness, that thou wilt break every inordinate affection, and dash in pieces every conceived opinion or conjecture which does not tend to thy own honour, and the enlargement of my experience in that path of liberty, into which, I am convinced, thou hast called me.



Tenth of Tenth Month. I left home to pay a visit to the county of Wexford. My mind has been bowed and low of late; renewed desires have been kindled to serve the Lord my God in more devotedness of heart: may the preparation be by his own pure Power and Spirit, and beget in me an humble acquiescence to the turning and forming of his holy Hand; that the dross may be purged away, and the temple be purified, to the honour of his great and excellent Name. Twenty-eighth. Returned home, after visiting most of the meetings in said county, and also in the county of Carlow.

Twenty-eighth of First Month, 1760. At meeting at Rathangan, my spirit was much refreshed and united to the spirits of my friends; an earnest supplication was formed in my heart for preservation in future, and that nothing might wrest or take from the arms of Divine protection, neither heights nor depths, prosperity nor adversity: and it is the humble petition of my heart at this time, that the Lord my

God may so open of his heavenly wisdom in my soul, as to keep me steady in the pursuit of the “one thing needful ;” and so to proportion his strength and power to my wants, as to give ability to pass the narrow sea of life to his own honour and glory.

Twenty-ninth of First Month, 1760. This day in a state of retirement, sweetly retrospecting and commemorating the mercies and favours of the Lord. May an holy acquiescence with his will be my delight. And work thou, O my God! passive obedience in my heart, where thou art wont to work, to bring forth those fruits with which thou art well pleased ; it is only effected by the operation of thy invisible Hand ; work, therefore, Lord, and who shall let it ?

Eighth of Fourth Month. This day I was married to Sarah, the daughter of Joshua Beale, and the gracious Donor of every good gift and blessing was pleased to attend. Our friend John Griffith was

helped to declare of the goodness of the Lord, and to set forth the excellency of seeking him in all our undertakings ; especially in that of marriage. It was a season of real profit and help : my soul seemed filled with Divine Goodness. May an enduring remembrance of the greatness of the Lord's mercy, influence my spirit to follow Him in greater degrees of devotedness."

Soon after his marriage, he settled in Cork, and having, for some time, had a prospect of visiting some parts of England and Wales, he previously obtained the concurrence of his friends, and left home in the Ninth Month, 1760. Visited the meetings of Friends, generally, in South Wales, the city of Bristol, and the West of England, and returned home in the Second Month, 1761. Of which journey he writes thus :

" In this visit the Lord was pleased, signally, to bless with his presence, support with his power, and refresh with his hea-

venly goodness : for which he is worthy to have the praise of all ascribed to Him, who lives Omnipotent and Omnipresent, for ever and ever. Amen.”

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## CHAPTER IV.

Exercises relative to paying a religious visit to America.—Attends the yearly meeting in London.—Returns home through part of Scotland, and the North of Ireland.—Leaves home for America.—Remarks made during the voyage : his visit to that continent, and safe return.

“SIXTH of Twelfth Month. This night was awakened out of my sleep in so remarkable a manner, as to make me apprehend that something trying was to succeed: and on the seventh, as I sat in meeting, I had some prospects, though at a distance, that dipped me exceedingly and bowed my spirit.



Twenty-second of Ninth Month, 1762.

I accompanied some Friends from England, appointed by their yearly meeting, on a visit to the monthly and province meetings in this nation. We held a meeting at Mallow, which tended to the information of the people, and the spreading of the knowledge of the principle of truth. In the course of this visit, we also attended the national meeting in Dublin, and the quarterly meeting at Waterford, where an ample reward was administered from the heavenly presence for all I had passed through in this journey ; magnified be that Hand which helps in the day of trial. Twenty-fourth returned home.

Twenty-ninth of Third Month, 1763.

At meeting felt the revival of an impression, long since made, with the pointings of sweet affection to a distant people.

Seventeenth of Fourth Month. Had another opening of the same prospect, with a feeling of love and light, which dipped my mind under various considerations ;

the weight of it greatly humbled and depressed my spirit, not so much from opposition to it, as from a dread of not being fit and qualified for such an undertaking, if it should be required. In the light is safety ; may my steps be so ordered as to walk therein.

Eleventh of Fifth Month, 1768. After having attended the national meeting in Dublin, I embarked for Holyhead, and landing safely, attended many meetings prior to being at the yearly meeting in London : visited divers meetings and Friends in that city ; returned through part of Scotland to the North of Ireland, taking meetings in many places ; and the sixteenth of Ninth Month, got well home, after a long absence : thanks to the Mercy of an holy, all-gracious Providence, who lives and reigns for ever ! Favour and Mercy have been extended through this journey ; for which, may a fresh dedication of soul and spirit to the Lord's service attend me to the latest period of my life.

Twenty-third of seventh month, 1769.

At meeting, in the afternoon, the prospect of a former opening affected my mind, accompanied by these words :  
 “ No man having put his hand to the plough and looking back, is fit for the kingdom.” My heart, I hope, is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty : I think I am willing to be any thing, or to do any thing, when I am truly sensible it is required, and that I feel strength. May all fruit be fully ripe before it be plucked, or handed forth to others ! This prospect has often appeared to me within these ten years past, and I hope I may be enabled to say : “ Not my will but thine be done !”

Sixteenth of Eighth Month. This day, poor and low in spirit, the view of distant labour and exercise is affecting, but I hope to be resigned, even to death.

Second of Fourth Month, 1770. I feel great sinking and depression of spirit, under the exercise that daily attends me, in

looking towards a distant land : the season seems not far off, that I must move, in acquainting my friends thereof. Fifteenth. At an adjournment of our men's meeting, I informed Friends of the concern I had long felt, to visit some of the meetings of Friends in North America, which affected the minds of divers ; and indeed very much tendered my own, from the weight and importance of the engagement which has attended me for a long time, both by day and by night, in sickness and in health. It was taken into consideration, and an appointment made to draw up a certificate.

Twentieth of Eighth Month. Preparing to go on board ship, felt tranquil in spirit, and quite easy with respect to all things in nature. It is the work of Grace, nothing short of its virtue could reduce to submission and subjection, and cause an entire relinquishing of things temporal, to follow after things that are eternal. The work is the Lord's and the praise and glory of all be ascribed to his great Name,



who is worthy to be renowned by every generation of man, for his mercies endure for ever !”

He sailed the twenty-second of Eighth Month, 1770. During the voyage he made many observations, of which the following are part :

“ I felt the incomes of Divine Love sweetly sustaining my mind. My heart was humbled in a sense of the mercies and goodness of God, daily renewed ; and I felt ability to beg for preservation and stability in the arduous work I am preparing to enter upon. The Lord grant, that there may be an entire dedication of heart, so as to be capable to stand in my place, and whatever may be cast up for me to do, that I may do it, to the honour of the great Name. Composure, and trust in the Lord’s arm of power, my attendants, for which I bless his Name.”

It appears that he passed much of his time, while on ship-board, in reading the

scriptures, and the writings of valuable Friends, to his comfort and edification.

Near the conclusion of the voyage, he felt an inclination to have a religious meeting with the ship's-company, but, by giving way to discouraging thoughts, he let the opportunity slip ; which he had cause to regret, and remarked : “ I hope experience will teach greater degrees of obedience.”

He writes : “ Composed in mind, from a sense of inward peace, and the unity of my brethren whom I have left behind ; this is a staff to lean upon in the midst of trials, and, next to Divine favour, one of the greatest blessings.” At another time : “ Was rather low from various considerations, the weight of the work, and the inexperience of the instrument. I trust I shall be preserved little and low.”

When they had safely come near the shore, he wrote : “ I trust I am thankful

for the Lord's mercies and favours daily dispensed, and can say, in humility, I have not murmured since my coming on board; but have been mercifully preserved in a sense of his goodness. I hope for this blessing to be continued, that, according to ability, I may labour in the vineyard, and work the works of Him, who has called me, with his high and holy calling."

He landed the Eighteenth of Tenth Month, 1770, at Newcastle, near Philadelphia.

It appears, that he paid a very extensive and acceptable visit to Friends in North America, in which he was diligently engaged till the time of his departure, the tenth of Eighth Month, 1772. Many instructive remarks are contained in his account of this journey and visit; and, by the following extracts, it is evident that he was favoured with best help in the course of his labours, and felt the sweet incomes of peace, on his return home.

“ Twenty-first of Tenth Month, 1770, First-day. I was at three meetings. The morning meeting, was a season of much refreshment to my mind: the afternoon meeting was solid; and that, in the evening, was attended with impressions of Divine Favour, which raised thankfulness in my heart: the Lord our God is gracious and merciful!

Eleventh of Second Month, 1771. I had a very tendering season, in a Friend's family, in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ: admittance was vouchsafed to the Lord's heavenly table in supplication, wherein many of my friends and relations were brought very near in the spring of life, and it was a season of Divine Favour to our souls, in which we rejoiced, and praised the Lord's holy Name and Power.

Sixth of Fifth Month. At the quarterly meeting in Philadelphia; 'the meeting for business was held after a sitting in silence, to prepare the spirits of Friends to act in the discipline. I had something to



say in this meeting, but left it uneasy, because (through a fear of prolonging the meeting beyond the proper time) I omitted part of the matter that was before me. There is great need of care in this respect, as well as not to exceed the bounds which Truth prescribes. May Divine Goodness open our understandings, and more and more replenish our minds with that faith, which overcomes slavish fear, and gives the victory.

Eighteenth of Seventh Month. At Upper Springfield. This evening in a very low poor state, being exceedingly stripped in my mind. In this solitary situation I walked out into the woods, where I felt something of the spring of Divine kindness, which raised a hope, that help was near, though seemingly concealed from me.

Nineteenth. Was at Mansfield ; where was a very large meeting, Friends from various quarters giving their company : in this meeting I was helped beyond my ex-

pectation ; the Gospel spring rising and spreading, more than for several meetings past, and my spirit revered the Power that withdrew, and afterwards raised into life.

Twenty-eighth. We were at Abington. In the meeting for worship I had little to say, but that little afforded relief. In the meeting for discipline, I had to speak to the various affairs that came before us, in which my companion, Robert Valentine, laboured faithfully, and I hope it was a time of instruction. There seemed to be a remnant of honest Friends, desirous of Zion's prosperity, and the maintenance of the discipline ; which is as a hedge set about us, in the wisdom of Truth : where it is supported there appears greenness, but where dropped or let fall, withering and decay generally prevail.

Twenty-fifth of Ninth Month. At the yearly meeting in Philadelphia. The meeting for business met at ten o'clock, in which truth owned, and favoured with

fresh ability to speak to the affairs that came before it : so that some of us could say, in truth, our meeting for business was a meeting of worship : it was adjourned to four, and finished about seven o'clock. The solid power and life of truth was sweetly felt, in this, the close of our meeting; and we came away thankful and humble, under a sense of Divine Favour, and that the Lord our God was revealed unto us; for which my soul adored his great and glorious Name, and I could say, through living experience, that salvation and strength belong unto the Lord and to his Christ, for ever and ever. Amen.

Twentieth of Second Month, 1772.  
Radnor meeting was in a good degree lively, being favoured with the running of the heavenly oil, which was truly comforting to my mind; having been much stripped as to spiritual enjoyment, and under baptism for many days, though resigned.

The evening of the twenty-first, some Friends were at my lodging, with whom had a silent sitting, in a communion truly delightful, which I thought a reward for what I had passed through this week.

Fourth of Fourth Month. Continued in Philadelphia until the Nineteenth; visiting the meetings and families of Friends, as truth opened my way ; during which time I had some dipping seasons, and trying, exercising moments, but, amidst all, was mercifully sustained, and enabled to get through my service.

Twenty-second. In Philadelphia, preparing for my journey to Oblong, having felt drawings, for some weeks past, to be at their ensuing quarterly meeting. It has been a sifting time, but my mind is brought into a disposition to be what the Lord my God would have me to be ; and to follow the leadings of his blessed and unerring spirit ; for, though human frailty is great, yet weak things are some-



times made strong, even to confound the wise and prudent of this world.

Sixth of Sixth Month. Went on board a vessel bound to Cork, to feel if I could go in her, but found a stop or bar, which brought me into close exercise ; but as I know my motive is to be clear of this people, and to discharge my duty, I am easy, and have resigned myself to Divine Disposal.

Thirty-first of Seventh Month. At the monthly meeting in Philadelphia. In the men's meeting we felt living uniting virtue, and the business was conducted in true desire for an increase of harmony and spiritual strength : many instructive hints were dropped in answering the queries.

First of Eighth Month. The quarterly meeting for ministers and elders was held ; which meeting was owned with the vital power and virtue of truth, and the body I believe was edified in love.

Second. Attended three meetings, in all which, I was helped to bear testimony for the truth of our God, and to labour in the ability that was revealed : living praise be ascribed to Him who lives for ever, and who, through grace, enables dust and ashes to stand in dominion over the opposing spirits of carnal men.

Third. The quarterly meeting met at Fourth-street, and was very large ; I was exercised, much to my own ease, both in the meeting for worship and that for discipline, and strength was granted to drop several remarks, which much relieved my mind.

Fourth. The youth's meeting was held : it was large, and I laboured in the authority truth gave : it ended in praises and thanksgiving to the Lord our God.

Fifth. Preparing for my return home, and visiting and taking leave of my friends.

Sixth. Was at Market-street meeting ; it was large ; and, though I went into the meeting very poor and empty, yet possessing faith in the sufficiency of that Power which is not of man but of God, I was enabled to deal very closely with some there, who had chosen their own ways, and to hand encouragment to the young and rising generation, in a sweet stream of gospel love : the meeting ended under a solemn sense of the Lord's goodness and mercy ; for which, and every favour extended, may the humble in heart say, " Good is the Lord. His works are wonderful and his ways past finding out."

Seventh and eighth. Visiting my friends, and preparing to embark for my native land : felt near sympathy with many of the Friends of this city, and particularly the youth.

Ninth. Was at three very large meetings, which were favoured with the Divine Presence ; tongue and utterance were mercifully administered ; the blessed Lord

of life strengthened my mind by the revelation of Power from on high, which set me above the spirits of the people. It was a day of favour to my soul, and in all those meetings I was supplied and replenished far beyond my expectation ; and had to praise the Lord for his mercies and blessings to his creature man. Reverence and awe deeply impressed my mind, under a sense of the Lord's gracious dealings to such a poor weak being as I am.

I went on board a good vessel bound for Cork, but could not see my way in her, though in appearance, much better and more complete than another bound for Waterford, and not likely to sail so soon. But, as my intention was to move in that which brought me from my native land, I committed myself into the keeping of a faithful Creator, and cast not my dependance upon outward observation, but on His eternal arm of strength that led me into this service, has graciously sustained and succoured in the needful time, and has been a present help when all outward



help was invisible : for which favours and mercies, may my soul bless his great and adorable name, for he is worthy to be followed, served, feared and obeyed, world without end.

Tenth. Took leave of many Friends in the tender love of God, in a manner suited to the solemnity ; a multiplicity of words did not attend our separation, but a living sense of the enjoyment of that life and virtue, which goes beyond the grave.

I went on board the Charlotte, Richard Curtis, bound to Waterford ; and, as the time was come to part, I rejoiced in the power of an endless life, and was quiet and composed. I was accompanied as far as Chester by several Friends ; we came to anchor in the evening.

Eleventh. Weighed anchor, had a pleasant day, read the scriptures, and was sweet and well in my mind ; and thankful in soul, for the feeling of great nearness

to my well beloved friends on this continent.

The consciousness of having endeavoured to discharge my duty, sits exceedingly pleasing : thanks be ascribed to Him who is the author of ability, wisdom and strength ; for to man, as man, belongeth nothing that is good, but to the Lord, only wise, dominion, honour and praise, for ever.

Twentieth. Sat alone, and was desirous that a heart might be given and continued, to remember the kind dealings of a gracious God, who wonderfully sustained in this journey, furnished for the labour of the day, gave me a place amongst the living in his family ; and, at my departure, favoured me with an incontestible evidence that I was in my place, and had stayed the proper time and no longer : this is what I desired fervently ; also that he would be graciously pleased to restore me to my friends, and unite us in the bond of spiritual fellowship.

Twenty-first and twenty-second. A pleasant breeze continued in our favour : read the scriptures, and was pleasantly composed, under a thankful sense of the many mercies and favours communicated to this hour. May ability be further vouchsafed, to be more and more sensible of the innumerable obligations I am under to the bounteous and inexhaustible treasury of goodness, infinite and immense.

Twenty-fourth. Spent the time very pleasantly and sweetly in my voyage, having an easy mind, free from anxiety and gloom.

Twenty-eighth. My time much taken up in reading the scriptures and other profitable works, which sweetened my mind, secretly sustained it, and kept it in the harbour of resignation and patience, which I esteemed a great blessing and favour. May the sweet influence of Divine Love, so operate, as to make me more and more sensible of the benefit of keeping under the government of our Lord

Jesus, who is King of kings, and Lord of lords, and who crowns with immortality and eternal life.

Fifth of Ninth Month. A pleasant breeze in our favour. My mind compos'd, under a sense of the enjoyment of that peace, which is given to those who endeavour to perform their Master's will.

Thirteenth, First-day. It blew a fresh breeze at south east, which brought us near Cork harbour ; but as the sea ran too high to attempt going on shore in a boat, I contented myself with going to the designed harbour, which was Waterford ; and arrived there safely in the afternoon, after a passage of thirty days, from land to soundings, and thirty-four from Philadelphia to Waterford.

Very merciful were the dealings of Heavenly Goodness to me in this voyage ! One thing, worthy of notice is, that the vessel bound for Cork, in which I was not easy to embark, sailed ten days sooner



than we did, and put into Waterford about three hours before us.

This instructed my mind to trust in the arm of Divine Help and Sufficiency, which is revealed for all those who humbly confide therein. Some of my friends urged the age of the Charlotte as an objection to my going in her ; but believing her to be the right vessel, and the monthly and quarterly meeting for Philadelphia coming on, I staid, and resigned myself to Divine Disposal, which yielded peace, and made my heart rejoice ; for, by the detention, I attended those meetings, which were much favoured ; and it seemed to be a Crown to my labours on the Continent : for had I gone in the other I should have missed them, been ten days longer at sea, and should have come with only part of my reward ; so that I can say, the Lord is worthy of adoration and praise.

Fifteenth. After attending the week-day meeting in Waterford, in which I felt afresh the spring of life and consolation to

unite and refresh ; I came to Clonmel : and the sixteenth, got well home, and found my dear wife and family in health ; for which, and all other mercies, I desire to bow in prostration and dedication of soul.

Eighteenth. At our week-day meeting in Cork, through the mercy and goodness of the great Lord of the creation, I felt my mind prepared to unite to the spirits of my friends present, and to reverence and worship his great Name, who lives for ever.

Twenty-second. When I consider the mercy extended to me in my distant travel in different climates, over dangerous rivers and swamps, the spiritual support I daily experienced, the unity of the living with my labours, and my safe return in Peace to my native land ; language will not admit of my commemorating the obligation I am under. Therefore may circumstances living express his praise ; and may I, in holy awe and silence, contem-

plate his matchless mercy, for he is abundant in goodness and truth to his servants, from generation to generation, for ever and ever. Amen.”



## CHAPTER V.

An account of his illness in 1786.—Testimony concerning him, containing a further account of his religious services, and an account of his death.

AFTER his return from America, he many times visited the meetings of Friends in divers parts of this nation and England.

In the year 1786, he was visited with a severe illness, which continued several weeks : after his recovery he writes thus : “ The Doctors attended from the twenty-first of the Ninth Month, for about eleven weeks, in which time I went through

abundance of bodily suffering ; the Lord was good and gracious, and replenished my mind in an extraordinary manner, and opened the fountain of life in me to speak to divers states and conditions : many of whom were deeply affected under the influence thereof. The inward support I felt was very remarkable ; the patience and resignation of my mind, amidst the violent pain attending, was marvellous in my own eyes ; the sympathy of my friends, far and near, was very sustaining ; and I look upon it as one of the greatest blessings in this life, next to Divine favour, to have the unity of our friends in the time of bodily affliction.”

After this time he seldom had good health, though frequently engaged in religious services.—In the year 1788, he wrote thus :

“ Fifteenth of Twelfth Month, 1788. Not well of late ; my mind feels mercifully resigned to my great Lord and Master :—I find my natural strength gradually



declining, and a great change in my constitution since the severe illness I had about two years ago. My greatest consolation is, that I have faithfully discharged my duty to the best of my knowledge, and followed the pointings of the Heavenly Shepherd who went before me, and sustained in the performance of his own requirings, blessed be his holy Name for ever, saith my soul. The consideration of these things is now a staff of support to lean upon in my present declining state of health. I may in reverence acknowledge that since my feet have been turned to follow the Lord, my God, he has blessed me in basket and in store ; has hitherto helped me in a spiritual sense, and made me to hope in his salvation, which is as a crown of rejoicing to me in my present confinement."

Some further particulars of his life, and an account of his death, which was on the twenty-seventh of Second Month, 1792, are contained in the following testimony.

*A Testimony from the Men's Meeting of Cork,  
concerning Samuel Neal, deceased.*

AS the Lord hath seen meet to deprive us of a living minister of the gospel, raised up, qualified, and sustained by the influence of his Holy Spirit; whose extensive labours of love, after a long residence amongst us, are fresh in our remembrance; we find our minds engaged, from the best information we have received, and from our own knowledge to testify concerning this our dear and honourable friend.

He was born in Dublin, in the year 1729: his mother died when he was about six years old; and his father soon after went to reside in America.

It is worthy of remark, that, although he was deprived of many of the advantages which numbers of our youth are favoured with, in a religious guarded education; yet he was an object of the peculiar notice of the Great Preserver of men; having, at

times, felt the incomes of Divine love at so early a period as scarcely to understand what it was that so visited his tender mind : but as he grew up, he gave way to youthful follies and vain amusements ; for which he often felt the reproofs of instruction ; but slighted these gracious visitations.

About the age of eighteen, he was placed apprentice in Dublin, where he was much exposed, and suffered great loss ; associating with the gay and licentious ; and, with them, rushing into iniquity, and, indulging himself in most of the pernicious amusements of that city. During this period he was not forsaken, being followed by conviction and remorse ; nor was he suffered long to run on in that path, which, with awful certainty, leads down to the chambers of death ; but as in the career of vanity and dissipation, he was met with, in a memorable manner.

Soon after his apprenticeship he came to this city, for the purpose of forming

connections in business : where, as well as on the journey, he met some of his associates ; and again gave way to irregularities ; yet, having in his worst state frequented meetings, and being at a meeting for worship here, which our friends Mary Peisley and Catherine Payton, then on a religious visit, attended ; the latter was enabled to speak to his state with such clearness and authority, that the witness in his heart was powerfully reached, and the strong holds of sin and Satan broken in him. Happily this gracious call was not rejected ; he submitted thereto with full purpose of heart, and, in the prime of life, making an unreserved surrender of his will to the Divine will, and turning his back on sensual sinful gratifications, he afforded a remarkable instance of the blessed effects of an entire dedication of heart. This precious powerful visitation was in the twenty-second year of his age ; and, being through infinite Mercy, preserved in, and under it, it was not many months until he came forth in the ministry, evidently attended with the baptizing



power of the Gospel; which had so reaching an effect on many of the hearers, divers of whom had been his former companions, that it afforded abundant cause of humble admiration and thankfulness.

About this time, our friend William Brown arrived from America, on a religious visit to these nations; and, not having a companion, he, with the concurrence of his friends, joined and continued with him, through most of his travels in this nation, parts of England, Holland and Germany, we believe much to their mutual consolation, and to his own establishment.

In the year 1753, he removed to reside within the compass of Edenderry monthly meeting, and continued in the exercise and improvement of his gift.

In 1757, he was joined in marriage to that dignified instrument Mary Peisley: this connection was dissolved within the short space of three days; it having

pleased the All-wise Disposer of events to remove that valuable woman after a few hours illness. This heavy trial he bore with much resignation to the Divine will, manifesting the inward support, which was afforded him, by the lively exercise of his gift at her interment.

In the year 1760, he was married to Sarah, the daughter of Joshua Beale, a valuable elder of this meeting, and, in her, experienced a tender faithful companion during the remainder of his life. Soon after his marriage, he settled within the compass of this meeting, and, we believe, that it was under the direction of best wisdom ; his Gospel labours, through the Divine blessing upon them, being very helpful and strengthening to this part of the vineyard.

Having for several years felt a weighty concern to pay a religious visit to the meetings of Friends in North America, with the full unity and concurrence of his brethren, he embarked in the Eighth Month,

1770; and was enabled to visit the churches generally on that continent, to the consolation and strengthening of many, and to the peace of his own mind. He returned in the Eleventh Month, 1772, and, at a suitable season, with great brokenness of spirit, gave a diffident, tendering account of the said visit, ascribing all praise to that power which had qualified and sent forth, and so marvellously to him, conducted through the various probations attendant on such a service.

He was often engaged in visiting Friends in sundry parts of this nation; was several times in England and Wales; and once in Scotland on the same account.

While favoured with health, he was exemplary in the attendance of our particular and general meetings; and divers times attended the yearly meeting in London. Thus he continued occupying with his gift at home and abroad, until encreasing age and infirmities of body, became some impediment to his labours in that line.

His last journey was on a visit to Friends in the province of Leinster, in which he felt a concern, to join some that were appointed by the national meeting. In this service he evidently appeared replenished with the love and tenderness of the Gospel; steadily moving under the cover of it, and bringing forth the fruits of charity, patience and meekness of wisdom.

Having returned home, he found himself still more indisposed, unable to attend meetings much afterwards; and, in some short time, he was affected with a mortification in his foot, which put a period to his existence here. The means and medicines which were judged necessary to be used in his case, tended in a great degree, to stupify his mental faculties; which is much to be regretted: but, while reason and recollection were continued, his expressions bespoke a mind, peaceful, calm and resigned. In this trying illness, he was preserved meek, humble and patient: and quietly departed this life the twenty-seventh of Second Month, 1792,



aged 62 years ; a minister 40 years ; and we doubt not, is entered into the joy of his Lord, and into his Master's rest.

His remains were interred in our burying ground the Second day of the month following, after a meeting previously held at the meeting-house on the occasion, which was graciously owned by Divine favour, and several living testimonies were then borne.

His ministry amongst us at home was truly acceptable and edifying, being renewedly under the precious influence of the Gospel, and often, in commemoration of the manifold blessings graciously extended by our bountiful Creator : and having himself, as he was wont to express, largely experienced Divine mercy and compassion, he was much clothed with charity towards others.

He was generally and much beloved ; benevolent, hospitable and kind ; an affec-

tionate husband, and a sincere sympathizing friend.

Signed in and on behalf of our three weeks Men's meeting, held by adjournment in Cork, fifteenth of Fourth month, 1792, by

Ebenezer Deaves,	John Carroll,
Isaac Haughton,	Edward Hatton,
Richard Allen,	Benjamin Horner,
Humphreys Manders,	Edward Russell,
Joseph Doyle,	Joshua White,
Joseph Garratt,	Sam. Beale, Caleb,
Joseph Hughes,	William Abbott,
Joshua Humphreys,	Gabriel Fisher,
John Newsom,	Mark Allment,
William Wright,	Isaac Carroll,
James Abell,	Thomas Abbott,
Joshua Beale, Jun.	William Simmons,
John Fennell,	Benjamin Wilson,
Richard Abell,	Tho. Knight-Alby,
Abraham Abell,	Thomas Hughes,
William Lecky,	John Davis,
John Eustace,	George Corlett,
Benjamin Eustace,	William Westcomb,

Samuel Newsom,	Charles Goin,
John Morris,	John Manders,
Thomas Harris,	Samuel Wright,
Reuben Harvey, Jun.	Sam. Newsom, Jun.
John M'Donnel,	Dennis Newsom,
Benjamin Haughton,	J. Newsom,
Isaac Robinson,	Edward Hatton, Jun.
J. Barcroft Haughton,	Richard Montjoy,
John Lecky,	Joseph Haughton.
Joseph Pike,	

Read and approved in our quarterly meeting for Munster province, held at Clonmel, twenty-third of Fourth Month, 1792, and in, by order, and on behalf thereof, signed by

SAMUEL DAVIS, *Clerk.*

Read and approved in our national half-year's meeting, held in Dublin, by adjournments from the twenty-ninth of Fourth Month, to the third of the Fifth Month, 1792, inclusive, and in, and on behalf thereof, signed by

JACOB HANCOCK, Jun. *Clerk.*

E N D.





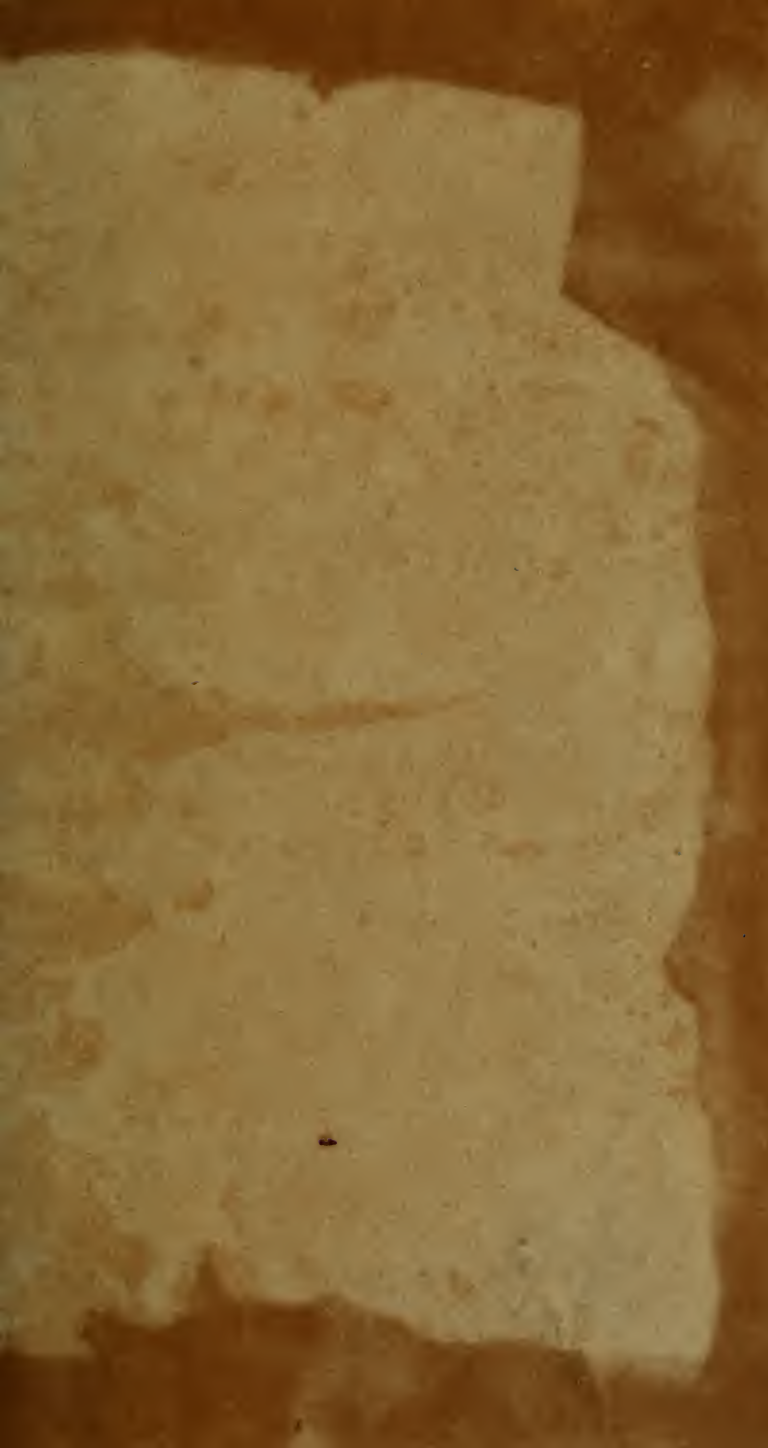


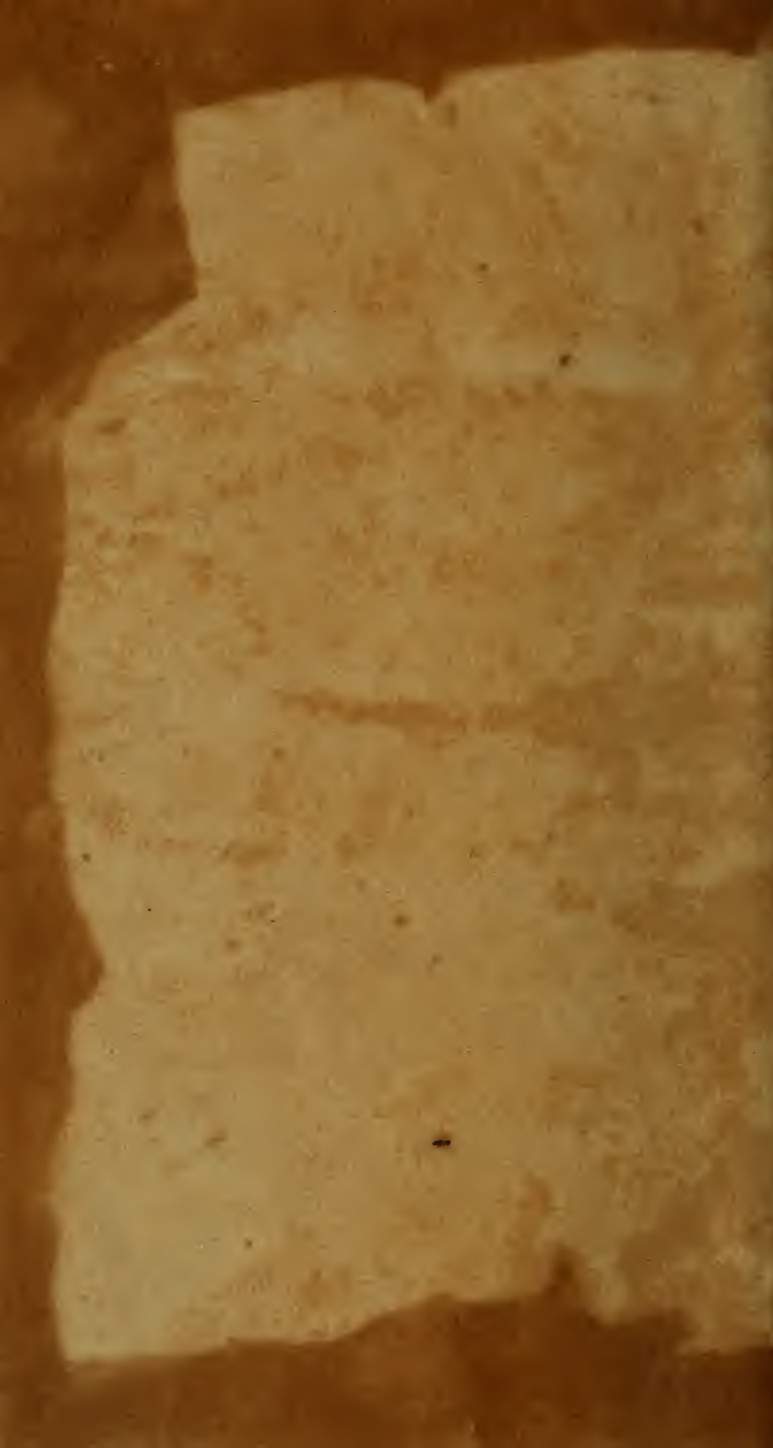














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